



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 24 totaled an estimated 17.6 billion ton-miles, 17.5 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 12 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 204.8 billion ton-miles, 12.6 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended March 24 totaled 404,285 cars, 16.8 percent above 1983, but 1.3 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 23.8 percent in the East, 13.6 percent in the South and 14.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 17 of the 21 commodity groups were up. Loadings of metallic ores were up 4,676 cars (39.0 percent), motor vehicles and equipment increased by 4,650 cars (28.1 percent), coal loadings posted a gain of 23,927 cars (25.4 percent) and grain loadings were up 3,577 cars (15.1 percent). Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 17 totaled 52,415 cars, up 21.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 92,303 trailers and/or containers, 25.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 11 weeks of the year was 536,627 cars, 17.1 percent higher than last year, and 940,596 trailers and/or containers, up 19.6 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 3/24/84:

	<u>Loadings in</u> <u>Week ended</u> <u>March 24, 1984</u>		<u>Change from</u> <u>Corresponding</u> <u>Week 1983</u>			<u>Change from</u> <u>Preceding</u> <u>Week</u>	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,265	I	3,577	15.1	D	2,325	8.5
Other farm products	3,429	I	309	9.9	I	86	2.5
Metallic ores	16,666	I	4,676	39.0	D	434	2.6
Coal	118,000	I	23,927	25.4	D	3,223	2.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,270	I	1,975	23.8	I	588	5.7
Nonmetallic minerals	12,388	I	1,878	17.9	I	485	3.9
Grain mill products	11,038	D	556	4.8	D	429	3.9
Food and kindred products	10,948	D	1,038	8.7	I	228	2.8
Primary forest products	14,399	I	154	1.1	D	118	0.8
Lumber and wood products							
except furniture	8,048	I	526	7.0	I	213	2.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,916	D	505	3.3	I	23	0.2
Chemicals and allied products	25,948	I	2,248	9.5	D	121	0.5
Petroleum products	4,550	I	401	9.7	D	478	10.5
Stone, clay and glass products	11,074	I	1,792	19.3	I	15	0.1
Ooke	5,677	I	495	9.6	I	438	7.7
Metals and products	10,827	I	1,746	19.2	I	331	3.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,208	I	4,650	28.1	D	198	0.9
Waste and scrap materials	10,519	I	2,379	29.2	D	145	1.4
Forwarder and shipper							
association traffic	7,637	D	1,184	13.4	I	243	3.2
All other carloads	59,193	I	10,772	22.2	D	542	0.9
LCL traffic	285	I	57	25.0	I	32	11.2
Total Cars Loaded	404,285	I	58,279	16.8	D	5,331	1.3

Corresponding week of 1983

346,006

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total Cars Loaded (12 weeks)	4,631,190	4,139,283	I 11.9
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
11 weeks ended March 17	187.2	166.9	I 12.2
Week ended March 24	17.6	15.0	I 17.5
12 weeks cumulative	204.8	181.9	I 12.6